



FALL 2011

HIGHER GROUND NEWSLETTER

A Word from the Spiritual Director

Greetings family in the mighty name that is above all names our Lord Jesus Christ. I am excited about what God is doing thru the awesome ministry of Higher Ground! People are seeing/experiencing the love of God in ways they've never experienced before. I am convinced as we continually pursue His will, this ministry is going to change many more lives in days to come. We cannot promote our own agendas and expect His will to be accomplished. His will is already perfect and nothing we can add or take away will improve it. One of the keys to continued success is to "will" to do His will. We are here for a common purpose, to spread the "good news", the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

We are a discipleship ministry which means we are to exemplify the Lord in a way that glorifies God just as He did. We should understand our purpose is to not draw attention or accolades to ourselves, but our mission is to point all who He entrusts us with to Him. Jesus said

Lord at ALL times: his praise "shall" continually be in my mouth. 2) My soul shall make her boast in the Lord: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad. 3) O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together. 4) I sought the Lord, and he heard me, and delivered me from ALL my fears.-- Do you think David always felt like "blessing" or "praising" God at ALL times?



in John 7:16-17 My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me. 17) If any man "will" to do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God or whether I speak of myself.-- Did you realize you can "will" to do His will? David said in the 34th Psalm 1-4, "I will" bless the

Of course he didn't. David had trials and tribulations just like we do, yet he chose to do His will rather than his own. Obedience is good and necessary but not enough! God also requires a willing heart. He's not looking for those who are going thru the motions of service, He is looking for and using those who not only are doing what He's called them to do, they are doing it with gladness

Prayer Vigil

We need your prayers!! The Men's and Women's Weekends are coming up and it is *essential* that these weekends be covered in prayer. Please visit www.hgexperience.org to sign up.

Important Dates

Men's "Experience" #47
September 22-25
Barry Lenhart, Director
blenhartii@yahoo.com

Women's "Experience" #48
October 6-9
Burnie Branscum, Director
jcandme_7@hotmail.com



Upcoming Weekends

Don't miss the opportunity to be involved in the upcoming fall weekends!!

Even if you can't be there to work, there is still work to be done. The pilgrims and workers need your

prayers. In fact, they are desperate for them. Won't you please commit to holding the ropes for one or both weekends? Pray for the pilgrims that they would be open to what God wants to show them. Pray for the workers that they would be

willing to serve as God wants and open to His guidance. You may visit www.hgexperience.org to sign up for a prayer time.

May God be honored and blessed and glorified as we come together on the mountain!!!

Spring Weekends

Servants needed!!!



Men's "Experience" #49
March 8-11, 2012

Women's "Experience" #50
March 29-April 1, 2012

Candlelight

Men's Candlelight Service

**Saturday Sept. 24
7:15pm**

**First Christian Church
Eureka Springs, AR**

The Candlelight service is one of the biggest highlights of the Higher Ground experience for both pilgrims and sponsors. Your participation in this service will bless you immensely, but more important, it can help bring the pilgrims another step closer to God and His amazing love.

Come be the 'Light of Christ' for your brothers and sisters in the faith.

Women's Candlelight Service

**Saturday Oct. 8
7:15pm**

**First Christian Church
Eureka Springs, AR**

A Word from the Spiritual Director (cont.)

of heart, with a willing spirit! This is what pleases God! Ex 35:5 Take ye from among you an offering unto the Lord: whosoever is of a "willing heart", let him bring it, an offering of the Lord: gold, silver, and brass.-- Do you realize worship to God includes service to God? Many think that worship and praise are basically the same thing, this is not so!



While both should be a constant in our lives, they are different. without taking a lot of time to go into the differences, I primarily want to point out that worshipping includes your "offering" (both natural and spiritual), "service" (also natural and spiritual), "livelihood" and much more. Have you seen Christians who walk around with a scowl on their face, pointing their bony fingers at everyone and condemning them to hell? These people are usually depressed, self

pitiful, and generally mad at the way their life is. That's not a picture of someone who is a true worshiper of God! That countenance does not bring God glory! So many are not Christians because they know family members or others who are! What a sad testament to what God has done for us! Prov 15:13 says A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance: but

by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.-- Some folks (just for you Wes C.) may try to excuse them-



selves by saying "that's just who I am, I don't smile very much", you don't have a merry heart according to

Prov 15. It will not help us much if we are only putting on our happy face at church! We must be "willing" to offer to the Lord at ALL times. You and I cannot mope around all week, thinking about all the woe's and sorrows we have to endure, because this "being a Christian" is soooooo hard, and expect God to honor our offerings of praise when we show up on Sunday morning. Grant it, if you are sincere, you are going in the right direction but you will find it extremely difficult to have a "merry heart" when your soul has been "cast down" all week. Paul said in Phillipians 4:4 REJOICE in the Lord ALWAYS: and again I say, REJOICE! I have to believe his spirit was shouting within him when he wrote this! Here's a man who spent many many years in shackles, chains and prison! Remember

when Paul and Silas were bound in the prison, singing praises unto the Lord? This stirs me up even as I

"...worship to God includes service to God..."

am writing to REJOICE!!! They didn't wait until they were free men, out from any and all persecution, they had a "willing" heart to praise God from where they were, right in the big middle of their mess! OH PRAISE GOD!!! WHAT IS OUR EXCUSE? WE NEED TO REJOOOOICE! And we know because they did, the very place they were bound up in was shaken and souls were saved!!! People need to see us family, wherever we are in this life, bound or free, with a "willing heart", worshipping God! People should see the merry

"A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance"

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countenances on our faces and even knowing the struggles we may be going thru, look in amazement and wonder how is it we are able to REJOICE!!



In closing I want to go back to Ex 36 and look at vs's 6-7 And Moses gave commandment, and they caused it to be proclaimed throughout the camp. saying, let neither man nor woman make any more offering of the sanctuary. So the people were restrained from bringing. 7) For the stuff they had was sufficient for ALL the work to make it,

and too much!-- Lord let it be said of HG that we had to "restrain" the people from bringing! That we had sufficient and too much! Too much Agape, too many people showing up for Candle light, too many signing up for the prayer vigil, too many pilgrims for the men and women....too much everything!! That's the God we serve family, when we come with our offerings and do so with a "willing heart", He's a God of too much! He came that we might have life and have it more abundantly!

I want to challenge all of us to release our faith and expect God's will to be done these upcoming wkends. Let's REJOICE always not just when we feel good or everything is going our way! Let's purpose to continually bless the Lord and determine His praise will

continually be in our mouths!!
He's a God of too much!

Jesus is Lord

Closing Ceremony

Don't miss the chance to come and welcome the new family members and see how God worked during the weekend!!

Men's Closing
Sunday Sept. 25
3pm

Women's Closing
Sunday Oct. 9
3pm